

Early Intervention Telepractice Information for Families

Early Intervention Guidance for COVID 19

What is Telepractice?

Telepractice is the delivery of early intervention services using distance technology (e.g., computers, iPads, etc.) when the family is not in the same physical location as the service provider (e.g. care coordinator, primary service provider or consultant). Service provider and family will participate in the session via video conferencing.

Is it secure?

Your privacy is important to us and you and your child's information will remain secure. As with any service, there may be potential risks associated with the use of telepractice. These risks include, but are not limited to:

- The internet connection used may not be sufficient (i.e. poor picture or sound quality, dropped connections, or audio interference) to allow for effective interaction.
- Security protocols of the internet-based programs could fail, causing a breach of privacy of confidential information.

The following security procedures will be followed to protect the confidentiality of your family's information:

- An encrypted and HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996) compliant software program (e.g. Zoom), will be used to conduct sessions.

What is needed?

Your family would need the following:

- Electronic device (e.g. computer, laptop, tablet, or smart phone) that is capable of doing video conferencing.
- Internet connection sufficient to do video conferencing.
- Download the HIPAA compliant software program to your electronic device.

The service provider will send you an invitation to your telepractice session via the HIPAA compliant software program (e.g. Zoom).

If the internet connection is not adequate (e.g., limited bandwidth, intermittent connection), services through telepractice may not be an option for you and your child. Your provider will discuss with you other options to provide the service.